

St Mary's RC Primary School

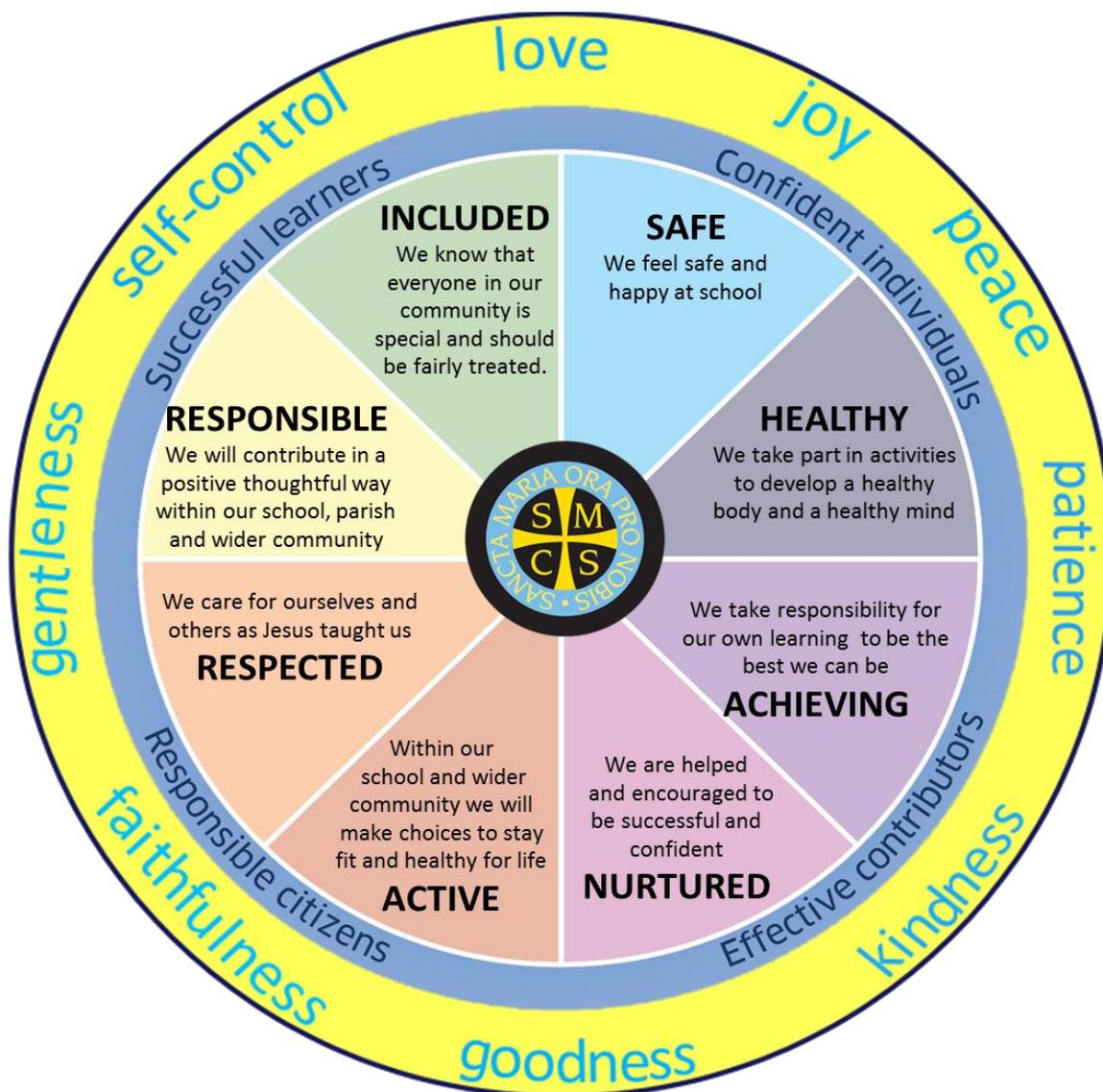
April 2022 Newsletter

At St Mary's our vision is to work together as a strong, vibrant community to create a positive, inclusive and productive place where children will be nurtured to grow and learn; a place where all pupils, staff and parents are supported and encouraged to develop all positive opportunities in and out of school. In our school, all children will be provided with high quality and challenging learning experiences to meet their individual needs and to help them be the best they can be. In St Mary's we grow together with respect and love.

Our School Motto: 'Respect, Cooperate, Achieve!'

At St Mary's our values reflect the Fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control.

Our aims embrace the SHANARRI principles of Getting it Right for Every Child.



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

It's been another busy term and the children and staff are looking forward to their holidays. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of myself and everyone at St. Mary's to thank you for your continued support of your children's learning and of the school. Wishing you all a happy and holy Easter and a relaxing break and hopefully some Spring Sunshine! Best Wishes Helena McHugh

Achievements

- **Ava P2** recently passed her Grade 1 ballet exam with a score of 94/100
- **Christine P1** made her Rainbow Promise
- **Alby P4** and his rugby team won a gold medal at a competition in Musselburgh
- **Amelia P5** and her gymnastic team won gold in their last 3 competitions around the UK. Amelia and her Cheer team also came 2nd at the recent BA Scottish Sensations competition
- **Blyth P5** won a 3rd and 5th place at her Highland Dance competition
- **Sebastian Nojus Adam Cormac and Lukas P5** all passed their recent Swimming Assessment

Congratulations also to the children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Alex Domas Dominik Elija Ethan Flora
Jaimeson Loughlin Lukas Nedas Rojus**

WELL DONE to everyone and remember, if your child has achieved something outside school do let us know so that we can celebrate with them



Access to Playground

As school life continues to get back to normal we are now in a position to welcome parents back into the playground however, we would still like to manage this in a way which is safe for all of our school community.

After the Easter holidays we propose that parents can drop off their children at the playground, continuing to use the top gate, from 8:45am, park bikes and scooters and the children can go to their lines. If parents wish to stay (particularly parents of P1-3 children) then we would ask that you wait behind the wall so that the area where the children line up does not become congested. We would still like to avoid large gatherings of adults as although we are trying to 'live with Covid' it is still very prevalent within school communities and is having a severe impact on staffing.

I will be in the playground from 8:50am to ensure that children are not on their own and are lining up safely and if anyone needs to pass on information/concerns etc

At the end of the day we would ask that you continue to wait on the field and we will bring the children to you as we currently do. This is the best way for us to dismiss each class in turn, see parents and ensure that children are handed over safely. As always staff will be accompany their class out and are available for a quick catch up if needed.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL ABSENCES

If your child is not attending school due to illness, hospital, dental appointments etc, please ensure that you contact school prior to 9.30 am to inform us of the reason for your child's absence. You can contact the school office either by phone on **01620 823298** or by the school text messaging service on **07860 049096**. If we do not hear from you, or are unable to contact you, we will contact all emergency contacts listed for your child.

Please Note: if your child has had sickness and/or diarrhoea they must stay off school for 48hrs

HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

We are noticing an increase in the number of children that are being taken out of school for family holidays during term time. Whilst we appreciate that sometimes this is unavoidable, we would like to remind parents that permission to take holidays during term time **MUST** be requested from the Head Teacher in writing. Generally, unless there are exceptional circumstances, family holidays in term time will be **unauthorised** and marked as such on a child's Attendance Record.

PARENTS PORTAL - COMING SOON

Parents Portal is a new way for parents to access information on their children, interact with their school and easily access other school services. By using a single login, parents will be able to update their own and their children's details, report absences, look up their children's reports, access SchoolPay, the school calendar and much more. St Marys will be piloting the new portal when this launches and we will be in touch with instructions on how to register once we have these.

LUNCH MONEY and NURSERY SNACK MONEY

With only a few months left of term, we have a fair amount of payments for both school lunches and nursery snack money that is outstanding

Unfortunately if this is not paid, it comes out of our School Fund which takes money away from valuable resources that benefit the children. If you have any outstanding debts on SchoolPay please arrange to pay this as soon as possible.

If for any reason you are experiencing difficulty in paying please do not hesitate to contact Mrs McHugh

SCHOOL CAR PARK

Once again, may we remind everyone that the school car park is for the use of school staff and visitors to the school **only and parents/carers are NOT permitted to use the car park**, unless by prior agreement with the Head Teacher. We are aware that the bollard is not in operation at the moment but please **do not use** the car park for dropping off or picking up children. Not only does this cause congestion but is a health and safety risk. Unfortunately, the parking situation continues to get worse with cars double parked causing congestion and lack of visibility and we are very lucky that there has not been an accident. We would really appreciate your support in trying to make this better. Also please do not park in the Disabled parking bay unless you are a Blue Badge Holder.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Just a reminder that our school uniform, which is supplied by Patricia Bewsey Designs, is available to order on line at:

www.garmentprinter.co.uk

or by phone: 07970920431

or [facebook.com/PatriciaBewseyDesign](https://www.facebook.com/PatriciaBewseyDesign)

Patricia supplies a number of schools in the East Lothian area so please be aware that she is very busy during the run up to the summer holidays. To avoid disappointment, please place your order early. Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent fundraiser for Ukraine's Emergency Fund

On our 'Be Bright Be Seen Day' we managed to raise £102 This will be sent off to SCIAF Well Done!



APR			JUN		
Fri	08	Break for holiday	Fri	03	Holiday - Queens Jubilee
Mon	25	Return to School		06	Golf P5-7
Mon	25	Golf P5-7		08	P7 Confirmation 7pm St Gabriels Church Prestonpans
Thurs	28	Launch of UNCRC Resource - details to follow		10	P7 Transition date to Knox
MAY				13	P7 Transition date to Knox
Mon	02	Holiday		14	P7 Transition date to Knox
w/b	09	Parent Consultations - details to follow		17	Sports Day
Mon	09	Golf P5-7	JUL		
Mon	16	Golf P5-7		01	End of Term
Mon	23	Staff in-service/pupil holiday			
Tue	24	P4 Confessions in School			
Sun	29	First Holy Communion 9.30am St Marys Church			
Mon	30	Golf P5/7			